

HOW TO BECOME A FIREWISE COMMUNITY/USA

Reduced Fuel . . . Reduced Risk!

Being Firewise begins with **YOU**. The Firewise Community/USA Program provides standards designed and maintained to give you maximum flexibility in creating the best plan for your community (from a subdivision to small towns). The five steps needed to become a Firewise Community/USA are:



1. Enlist the Alabama Forestry Commission and other recognized professionals to complete a community assessment and create a plan that identify agreed-upon achievable Firewise prevention projects to be implemented by the community.
2. Sponsor a local Firewise Task Force Committee, Commission or Department which maintains the Firewise Community/USA Program and tracks its progress or status.
3. Observe a Firewise Community/USA Day each spring that is dedicated to a local Firewise prevention project.
4. Invest a minimum of \$2.00 per capita annually in local Firewise prevention projects. (Work by municipal employees or volunteers using municipal and other equipment can be included, as can state/federal grants dedicated to that purpose.)
5. Submit an application to the Alabama Forestry Commission. After certified, submit an annual report to Firewise Community/USA national center that documents continuing compliance with the program. Forms are available on the National Firewise website (www.firewise.org).

The Alabama Forestry Commission can provide additional information about the program.

Firewise Community/USA provides you with the knowledge necessary to maintain an acceptable level of fire protection and evacuation planning.

The program draws on your community's spirit, resolve, and willingness to work together and take responsibility for fire prevention.

Examples of Firewise Activities				
Wide Access Roads for Emergency Vehicles	Multiple Access & Exit Routes	Identify High Fire Risk Areas	Remove Overhanging Branches	Fire Resistant Siding, Doors, & Windows
Chimney Spark Arrestors	Fire Resistance Roofing Material	On-site Water Storage	Risk Assessments & Mitigation Plans	Clear Fuel around Propane Tanks
Create Defensible Space	Fire Resistant Plants	Fire Department Coordination	Evacuation Plan	Fire Prevention Education
Permanent Firelanes	Prescribed Burning	Clear Debris from around House & Porch	Clear Fuel from around Burn Barrel	Firewise Community/USA
Fire Alerts to General Public	Community Clean Up Day	Smart Development Planning	Fire Prevention Plan	People Working Together